



JANUARY 2006

COMMUNITY NEWS

Interim City Manager

The City Council has appointed Public Works Director Brian Amundson to serve as Interim City Manager until a new manager is hired. Mr. Amundson started with the City in 1986 as City Engineer. He has been Director of Public Works since 1998.

City Manager Don Norrell resigned last month, after 28 years with the City of Eau Claire. Upon his departure he said, "I know that Eau Claire will continue to grow and prosper and be one of the best places on earth in which to live and raise a family." He added that he would, "miss the fine people here and always consider Eau Claire to be my hometown."

The Interim City Manager can be contacted in the City Manager's Office in City Hall at 839-4902 or on the Web at cityhall@eauclairewi.gov.

Proposed Hiring Process for New City Manager

At their meeting on December 13, 2005, the City Council directed staff to begin the process of selecting a firm to assist the Council in recruiting a new City Manager.

POSSIBLE TIMELINE

January 24	City Council action regarding recruitment firm
February	City Council determination of qualifications and job description
Feb/March	Advertise for applicants
March/April	City Council review of candidates/selection of finalists
May	City Council interviews with finalists
June	Possible starting month for new City Manager



2006 City Council Election

The Spring election will be held on Tuesday, April 4. Five City Council Members will be elected to two-year terms to represent the entire city (at-large members). Candidates for the April election are as follows:

Brandon Buchanan	304 Ninth Avenue
Hal Davis	3521 Ellis Street
Benny Haas	521 Union Street
Raymond Hughes	4218 Meadowwood Drive
Kerry Kincaid	4441 S. Lowes Creek Road
David Klinkhammer	3903 House Road
Thomas Vue	1035 Bradley Avenue
Michael Young	3123 Eldorado Boulevard

In addition to the City Council, the April 4 ballot will include the offices of State Supreme Court, four Circuit Court Judges, County Board Supervisors and School Board Members.

District Two Alderperson Dallas Neville resigned his Council seat in December. His term expires in April 2007. Under State law, the City Council appoints a resident of the District to complete the unexpired term. The City Council will consider applications at the first meeting in February.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED City Council Boards and Commissions

The City Council draws from names in a Citizens Resource Bank whenever vacancies occur on City boards, commissions and committees.

Over 150 individuals are now serving as citizen members on the following City boards, commissions and committees. These individuals provide valuable assistance to the City Council and help address the current issues and shape the future of our community.

If you live within the city limits of Eau Claire and would be interested in serving on one of the above boards, commissions or committees, please call the City Manager's Office at 839-4902 and request a Citizen Resource Bank Form, or print one out from the City's Web site at www.eauclairewi.gov.

Administrative Review Board
Affirmative Action, Building Code Committee
Development Zone Advisory Board
City/County Board of Health
Board of Heating Examiners and Appeals
Housing Advisory Board, Housing Authority
Landmarks Commission, Library Board
Plan Commission, Police and Fire Commission
Putnam Park Commission
Redevelopment Authority
Restaurant Review Board
Revolving Loan Fund Committee
Senior Center Board
Special Assessment Deferment Committee
Transit Commission, Utility Appeals Board
Waterways & Parks Commission
Zoning Board of Appeals

2006 City Budget

The Budget adopted by the City Council for 2006 preserved most of the existing City services; however, with fewer employees and a larger area to cover, service levels may see some decrease. Nine full-time and seasonal positions are proposed to be eliminated over the next two years, resulting in a reduction of approximately \$520,000. The City's streets and utilities will continue to be funded at traditional levels. The City Council will also be considering the feasibility of creating a Municipal Court.

Anyone wishing to review the City's 2006 Budget may do so by visiting the Reference Desk at the City Library or the City's Web site at www.eauclairewi.gov.

Plan in Place to Guide City's Future GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The Eau Claire Comprehensive Plan was recently approved by the City Council. A 30-Member Citizens Advisory Committee worked for two years to review all parts of the new Comprehensive Plan. The City Council, City Plan Commission and other City boards and committees will use this document to guide their decisions about future city growth and development.

The projections in the Comprehensive Plan predict that the city will grow by 11,500 people and by six square miles in the next 20 years.

Some of the key policies of the Plan include:

FRINGE GROWTH

Expand the Urban Sewer Service Area and protect it for efficient, compact urban growth.

NEIGHBORHOOD PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT

Keep older neighborhoods attractive and vital through improved streets, parks and services; code enforcement; design standards and selective redevelopment.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Protect and enhance the major natural features of Eau Claire, such as wooded hillsides, scenic views and waterfronts.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Improve intergovernmental coordination on land use, utilities, roads, drainage, parks, boundaries and school sites.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Continue to work with county, state and private organizations to diversify and expand the local economy, while raising the standard of living.

CITY FISCAL HEALTH

Improve and stabilize City fiscal conditions by keeping cost increases in line with revenue growth.

For more information on the Plan, visit the City's Web site at www.eauclairewi.gov, or contact the Department of Community Development at 839-4914, or email CityHall@eauclairewi.gov.

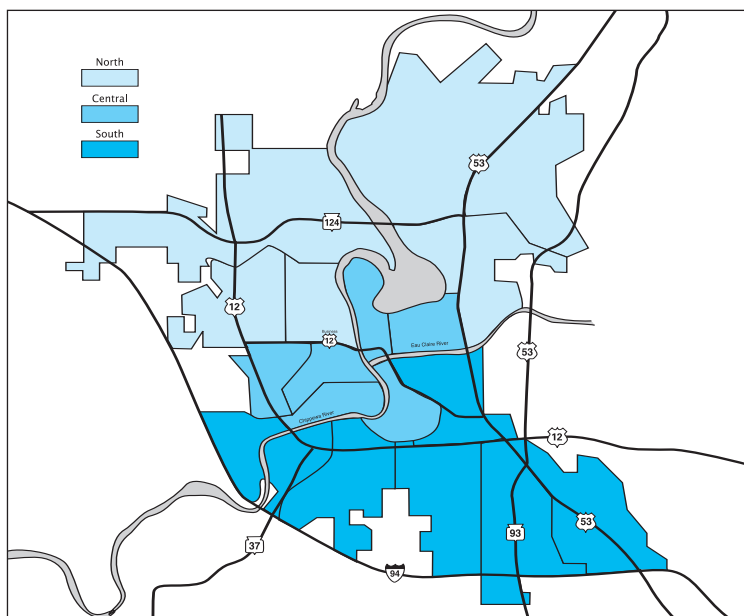


**EAU CLAIRE
POLICE
DEPARTMENT**

Police Officers Now Assigned to "Beats"

Beginning this month, police officers will be assigned to cover specific geographic areas. This approach will enable officers to become more familiar with the people in neighborhoods, to better understand specific issues, and to help work out solutions to problems.

The Police Department has divided the city into 18 separate neighborhood beats, grouped into three main districts with six neighborhoods each. This system should help officers to prioritize calls and also to work more closely with residents and other government and community service agencies to address issues within each area.



Beginning this month, police officers will be assigned to one of 18 neighborhood beats within the three districts shown above.

Flu Facts from the Health Department

The actual flu, for which flu shots are administered as a preventative, is a respiratory disease caused by a virus. The types of viruses that cause the flu vary from year to year. Influenza is different from a cold and does not affect the digestive system—this is an entirely different condition that is often mistakenly referred to as “the flu”.

Symptoms of the flu include high fever, headache, dry cough, sore throat, nasal congestion and body aches and/or tiredness. Cases can range from mild to severe and, in some cases, can cause life-threatening complications, like pneumonia or dehydration.

The best single way to prevent the flu is to get the flu shot. It is also important to wash hands often and not share food or drink and to avoid people with flu-like symptoms. Those with the flu should stay home, rest, drink plenty of liquids and avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco.

New in
2006!

Designated Bus Stops



The Eau Claire Transit Commission has directed the phasing in of a **designated bus stop** system over the next three years. In the past, bus passengers could flag down a bus at any intersection along a bus route. While it was recognized that this worked well for regular passengers, new users unfamiliar with the routes of the system often found it somewhat troubling or confusing.

The Eau Claire Transit Commission will hold public hearings in February to solicit passenger reaction to the **designated bus stops** before proceeding further with the program. Once approved by the Transit Commission, the first 47 new designated bus stop signs will be located in the downtown area.

Once the new **designated bus stops** are installed, passengers boarding buses not in the downtown area will still be able to flag buses at intersections as usual.

Ridership on Eau Claire Transit buses has continued to show steady increases, with over one million passengers being served in 2005. For more information about designated bus stops or other Eau Claire Transit questions, call 839-5111, or visit the City Web site at www.eauclairewi.gov.

Did You Know?



Federal and State tax forms are currently available at the L. E. Phillips Memorial Public Library.



Licenses are required for all dogs and cats in the city over 5 months of age. Pet licenses are available at the Customer Service counter on the first floor of City Hall. A license could be your pet's ticket home if lost or injured. Call 839-4923 for additional information.

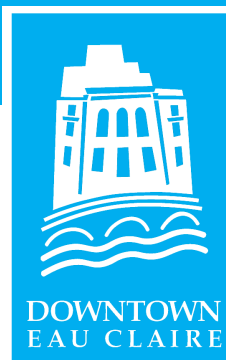


Copies of current City Council agenda materials, including background information of all items, can be viewed at the Library Reference Desk.

THINGS ARE HAPPENING DOWNTOWN!

Downtown Eau Claire saw many changes in 2005. Phoenix Park was dedicated, a new Chamber of Commerce office building was constructed on the former Greyhound Bus Depot site, and the Recreational Trailhead Building was opened near the confluence of the Eau Claire and Chippewa Rivers. Construction was also started on the new Farmers Market to be located in Phoenix Park.

There are currently 6,968 employees in the downtown area. The largest employers are Luther/Midelfort, Eau Claire County, YMCA, City of Eau Claire, Eau Claire Press Company and Harmon Solutions Group. Approximately 19.8% of all Eau Claire jobs are located in the downtown area.



New Downtown Businesses in the Last 6 Months!

- **Allstate**
130 South Barstow Street
- **American Crop Insurance**
200 Riverfront Terrace
- **Big Rivers Wireless**
417 South Barstow Street
- **Bill and Brent Music**
120 Graham Avenue
- **Body Focus**
705 South Barstow Street
- **Brickhouse Music**
203 Gibson Street
- **Buss & Burleson**
505 South Dewey Street
- **Carol's Cozy Creations and Consignments**
122 South Barstow Street
- **Ceejae's Consulting, Inc.**
405 South Farwell Street
- **Christopherson Coaching**
405 South Farwell Street
- **Destini Records**
505 South Dewey Street
- **E-Rolling Skate Shop**
307 South Barstow Street
- **Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce**
101 North Farwell Street
- **Eau Claire Area Economic Development Corporation**
101 North Farwell Street
- **Eau Claire Express**
108 East Grand Avenue
- **Eau Claire Metro Treatment Center**
200 Oxford Avenue
- **Goyette Siding and Windows**
631 East Madison Street
- **Iris Photography**
204 S. Barstow Street
- **Johnson Concrete**
631 East Madison Street
- **Just Local Food Co-op**
104 Gibson Street
- **K&M Landscaping**
631 East Madison Street
- **Lewis Financial Advisors**
13 South Barstow Street
- **Mutter Construction and Maintenance**
2000 Oxford Avenue
- **Once Upon a Time Scrapbooking**
312 South Barstow Street
- **One of a Kind Interior Design**
21 South Barstow Street
- **Pure Energy Productions**
312 South Barstow Street
- **Rally Communications**
6 South Barstow Street
- **Riverside Counseling Clinic**
130 South Barstow Street
- **Soddard, Glenn M.**
130 South Barstow Street
- **Sole Have Reflexology**
205 Gibson Street
- **Strobel Insurance**
130 South Barstow Street
- **Willow Creek Women's Clinic**
130 South Barstow Street



203 South Farwell
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54701

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EAU CLAIRE, WI
PERMIT NO. 1115

Check the City's Web site at
www.eauclairewi.gov
for information on

- * City Council
- * Skating Rinks
- * Public Meetings
- * Elections
- * Winter Parking Restrictions
- * New Police Beats

IT HELPS TO KNOW

- Snow and ice must be cleared from sidewalks within 24 hours after a snowfall or the development of icy conditions. Report icy or unshoveled sidewalks to the Street Maintenance Division at 839-4963.
- Please help keep your neighborhood fire hydrant clear of snow. The Fire Department states that a fire can double in size every minute. Fire fighters could waste precious time trying to locate and dig out a snow-covered hydrant in an emergency.
- Shoveling, plowing or blowing snow onto the streets can create dangerous conditions and is prohibited in the city of Eau Claire.
- Stay a safe distance from snowplows. Plow drivers need to operate salt spreaders, plows and blade extension wings, all while maneuvering through traffic. Please give them room--and be aware that snowplow wings may extend beyond the width a motorist might anticipate.

Wisconsin Road Conditions 1-800-ROADWIS (1-800-762-3947)

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Meetings are occasionally changed. To confirm, please call 839-4902.

City Council *Broadcast Live*

Legislative Meetings on second and fourth Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.

Public Hearings on the Monday night before at 7:00 p.m.

City/County Board of Health

5:15 p.m. Fourth Wednesday

Housing Authority

7:45 a.m. Fourth Monday

Landmarks Commission

4:30 p.m. First Monday

Library Board

7:30 a.m. Third Thursday

Plan Commission *Broadcast Live*

7:00 p.m. First and Third Mondays

Police and Fire Commission

4:00 p.m. Third Thursday/Bi-monthly
(Jan/March/May/July/Sept/Nov)

Transit Commission

7:00 p.m. Third Wednesday

Waterways and Parks Commission

7:00 p.m. Fourth Wednesday

Zoning Board of Appeals

7:00 p.m. First Tuesday

Other boards and commissions meet as needed. Public notices are posted and provided to the news media. The public is welcome at all meetings.

Agendas for City Council meetings are published in the **Leader-Telegram** the Sunday before the

meeting and also posted on the City Web site and shown on Cable Channel 12.

Rebroadcasts of the Council meetings are shown at 8 a.m. on Thursday and noon on Saturday the week of the meeting.

Stay in Touch!

City Council Members

David Adler, President	831-1373
Ray Hughes, Vice President	835-5785
Toby Biegel	836-7426
Hal Davis	831-6120
Dave Duax	835-0905
Kerry Kincaid	831-1013
Berlye Middleton	835-2786
District #2 Currently Vacant	
Terri Stanley	832-1019
Bob Von Haden	834-2889
Thomas T. Vue	839-7652

City Offices

EMERGENCY 9 - 1 - 1

Stay on the line!

(7-second delay while call is being traced)
(Ambulance • Fire • Police)

Community Information	839-5004
City Manager	839-4902
City Attorney	839-6006
Community Development	839-4914
Finance	839-6044
Fire Administration	839-5012
City-County Health	839-4718
Human Resources	839-4921
Library Administration	839-5002
Parks and Recreation	839-5032
Police Administration	839-4975
Public Works	839-4934

Questions about our City government or public meetings? Call 839-4902